



Office of the Director

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JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR
SUSAN GERARD, DIRECTOR

DEC 29 2005

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Governor
State of Arizona
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Napolitano:

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services and the Arizona State Hospital for fiscal year 2005. This report is prepared in accordance with A.R.S. 36-3405 and 36-209(E) and combines the Annual Reports for the Division of Behavioral Health Services and the Arizona State Hospital, and reflects the activities of various components of these service areas.

The following are highlights of this report:

Arizona Department of Health Services | Division of Behavioral Health Services

- During fiscal year 2005, a total of 130,205 behavioral health recipients have received services. Additionally, during fiscal year 2005, prevention services were provided to approximately 200,000 individuals.
- The Division formed a workgroup comprised of internal and external stakeholders to improve suicide prevention and treatment services in collaboration with other organizations. A Special Suicide Risk Assessment Addendum was created and will be included in each behavioral health recipients' initial and annual assessment.
- The Collaborative Agreement Task Force was initiated to focus on those with serious mental disorders with co-occurring chronic medical conditions. The information collected by the Task Force will be utilized to propose final solutions to improve the coordination of care between acute medical and behavioral health systems.
- The Urgent Behavioral Health Response for Children Entering Foster Care process has been operating statewide since October 2003. More than 7,000 children have entered the behavioral health system through this process, which has received national recognition as an important, positive innovation from the Child Welfare League of America and the National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health. The Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) now actively apply the protocol's service expectations to guide the use of out-of-home services, with the current result that fully 97.5% of enrolled children are able to be

served in their own homes and communities, and fully 40% of the remaining children receive out-of-home care services within therapeutic foster care families.

- The Department expanded and enhanced its statewide network of providers and behavioral health services including therapeutic foster care, out of home placement, detoxification, and peer and family support services.

The Arizona State Hospital

- The average daily census of the Arizona State Hospital for fiscal year 2005 was 269 patients. This is down from an average daily census of 311 for fiscal year 2004.
- The average monthly admission rate for fiscal year 2005 was 25 patients. This was a 28.6% decrease from the fiscal year 2004 average monthly admission rate of 35 patients.
- The fiscal year 2005 recidivism rate was 6.4%. Recidivism rates for prior fiscal years vary from a low of 4.4% in fiscal year 2000 to a high of 9.2% in fiscal year 1999. In total, there were 38 readmissions during fiscal year 2005.
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation is the foundation for service delivery used at the Arizona State Hospital. This approach is followed because it stresses building on people's strengths and abilities rather than emphasizing their illness.
- In September 2004, the Joint Committee on Capital Review approved the transfer of \$3.5 million from the Hospital Capital Construction Fund to the Department of Administration to fund capital projects and improvements to older hospital buildings. Many projects are funded by this appropriation and when completed, these projects will extend the lifetime of the existing buildings and improve energy efficiency and overall appearance.

I pledge our continued efforts toward a system that provides quality behavioral health services to those in need.

Sincerely,

Susan Gerard
Director

SG:jv

Enclosure

C: Dennis Burke, Chief of Staff, Policy, Office of the Governor
Anne Winter, Policy Advisor, Health/Human Services, Office of the Governor